Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The people of ancient Greece developed the concept of democracy in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people, and the Founding Fathers of the United States, many of whom read Greek political philosophy in the original Greek language, drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming the representative democracy of the United States; and,

Whereas, The people of the United States generously offered humanitarian assistance to the people of Greece during their struggle for independence; and,

Whereas, Greece consistently allied with the United States in major international conflicts throughout the 20th century and the government and people of Greece actively participated in peacekeeping and peace-building operations conducted by international organizations, including the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the European Union, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe; and,

Whereas, Thousands of Americans of Greek descent have fought for the United States in all 20th century international conflicts, and the governments and people of Greece and the United States are at the forefront of efforts to advance freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights; and,

Whereas, Those efforts and similar ideals have forged a close bond between the people of Greece and the United States, and the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association will celebrate the 195th Anniversary of Greek Independence Day on March 25, 2016:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 25, 2016, as

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State